

Julia Revellese- Quinebaug Valley Community College

Good evening, Representatives, Senators, and Members of the Committee.
Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony with you tonight.

My name is Julia Revellese, and I am a resident of Killingly, CT. I have been a student at Quinebaug Valley Community College since Fall 2020. I was a high school partnership student from 2020 to 2022, which allowed me to graduate from high school having obtained half of the credits towards my desired degree.

I am fortunate enough to be pursuing an associates degree in Early Childhood Education without any debt or tuition cost. I am finally able to receive the education that I deserve without any financial burden. I am a student that is receiving financial aid, as well as a student on PACT. With that being said, I have the amazing opportunity to be a work-study student because I receive financial aid.

My few years spent at Quinebaug Valley Community College have been nothing but amazing. On campus, I am an active student; being the current Vice President of Student Government and President of Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society. Without the financial support I have, I wouldn't be the dedicated student leader I am. It allows me to be able to focus on school rather than work full time to make ends meet. I have experienced student life firsthand and can confidently say that the remarkable staff and faculty at QVCC, as well as the opportunities our college has to offer, is capable of changing lives. Everyone I have encountered here has been dedicated to helping me be successful and has contributed to my phenomenal college experience.

The CSCU system is exceptionally capable of supporting each student to reach their life goals once they graduate from college. Although I may be the one speaking before you today, please know that I am speaking for a great number of other students as well; students who feel the same way as myself. CSCU continues to provide support for students in community colleges each day and guides us to be successful individuals.

I chose Quinebaug Valley Community College because it was an affordable option to explore my career of interest. Please consider continuing your support for my college, as the valuable opportunities students receive can feel endless, but they aren't: They are funded with your support. The location of Quinebaug Valley Community College is a rural, low-income area, and most of our students need to work to get by. Our students are incredibly grateful for the financial support they get at our college and are fortunate to receive such funding. Being a student at Quinebaug Valley Community College has shaped me into a better student and pushed me to grow in ways that I never thought possible. With your continued support, Quinebaug Valley Community College can do just as much, if not, more for its students.

I'm grateful for your time. Thank you.

Julia Revellese